

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

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Cont.  
1. (Currently Amended) A function appending method for a digital camera which records image data by converting an image pickup light photoelectrically, comprising the steps of:

receiving a program recorded on an external recording medium connected to the digital camera exchangeably;  
storing the program into a recording medium provided in the digital camera;  
writing a write inhibit flag into a directory of the recording medium after the program is written into the recording medium;  
reading out the program from the recording medium in the digital medium at a desired time; and  
executing the program.

2. (Currently Amended) A function appending method for a digital camera which records image data by converting an image pickup light photoelectrically, comprising the steps of:  
receiving a program recorded on an external recording medium and sent therefrom via a communication line,  
storing the program ~~onto~~ into a recording medium provided in the digital camera;

writing a write inhibit flag into a directory of the recording medium after the program is written into the recording medium;

reading out the program from the recording medium in the digital medium at a desired time; and

executing the program.

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3. (Currently Amended) The function appending method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising the step of: deleting a desired program from recording medium in the digital camera, wherein the write inhibit flag of the desired program is replaced with a write enable flag.

4. (Currently Amended) The function appending method as set forth in claim 2, further comprising the step of: deleting a desired program from recording medium in the digital camera, wherein the write inhibit flag of the desired program is replaced with a write enable flag.

5. (Original) The function appending method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the program is a print image data generating program.

6. (Original) The function appending method as set forth in claim 2, wherein the program is a print image data generating program.

7. (Original) The function appending method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the program is a communication program.

8. (Original) The function appending method as set forth in claim 2, wherein the program is a communication program.

9 (Original) The function appending method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the image data is recorded on the recording medium in the digital camera.

10 (Original) The function appending method as set forth in claim 2, wherein the image data is recorded on the recording medium in the digital camera.

11 (Currently Amended) A digital camera for recording image data by converting an image pickup light photoelectrically, comprising:

external program reception means for receiving a program recorded on an external recording medium, which is connected thereto exchangeably, to store the program into a recording medium provided therein; and

execution control means for reading out the program from the recording medium at a desired time to execute the read out program,

wherein the external program reception means writes a write inhibit flag into a directory of the recording medium after the program is written into the recording medium.

12. (Currently Amended) A digital camera for recording image data by converting an image pickup light photoelectrically, comprising:

external program reception means for receiving a program recorded on an external recording medium and sent therefrom via a communication line to store the program into a recording medium provided therein; and

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execution control means for reading ~~out~~ the program from the recording medium at a desired time to execute the read out program,

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wherein the external program reception means writes a write inhibit flag into a directory of the recording medium after the program is written into the recording medium.

13. (Currently Amended) The digital camera as set forth in claim 11, further comprising:

program deleting means for deleting a desired program from the recording medium provided therein, and

wherein the program deleting means replaces the write inhibit flag of the desired program with a write enable flag.

14. (Currently Amended) The digital camera as set forth in claim 12, further comprising:

program deleting means for deleting a desired program from the recording medium provided therein, and

wherein the program deleting means replaces the write inhibit flag of the desired program with a write enable flag.

15. (Original) The digital camera as set forth in claim 11, wherein the program is a program for generating print image data, and further comprising:

print data transmitting means for transmitting the print image data generated by executing the program to a printing device.

16. (Original) The digital camera as set forth in claim 12, wherein the program is a program for generating print image data, and further comprising:

print data transmitting means for transmitting the print image data generated by executing the program to a printing device.

17. (Original) The digital camera as set forth in claim 11, wherein the program is a communication program for communicating data with a terminal device connected to the communication line.

18. (Original) The digital camera as set forth in claim 12, wherein the program is a communication program for communicating data with a terminal device connected to the communication line.

19. (Original) The digital camera as set forth in claim 11, wherein the image data is recorded onto the recording medium provided therein.

20. (Original) The digital camera as set forth in claim 12, wherein the image data is recorded onto the recording medium provided therein.

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21. (New) The function appending method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the recording medium is a flash memory.

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22. (New) The function appending method as set forth in claim 2, wherein the recording medium is a flash memory.

23. (New) The digital camera as set forth in claim 11, wherein the recording medium is a flash memory.

24. (New) The digital camera as set forth in claim 12, wherein the recording medium is a flash memory.

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